

# Forestry Practices

---

## ***Puget Sound Management Plan Goal***

- Restore and protect water quality and fish habitat from effects connected with improper forest practices on federal, state and private lands and to restore water bodies and fish habitat already degraded by improper forest practices.

## **Strategies for Achieving Goal**

- Continue using the Timber/Fish/Wildlife Agreement approach on forest management issues.
- Implement new rules for forest practices.
- Develop and implement local programs to address the effects of private forestland conversions and small forestry operations.

## **Background and Trends**

Much of the Puget Sound basin's 16,000 square miles is forested, particularly in the upper watersheds. Federal and state governments, in partnership with industry and non-profit organizations, developed and are implementing programs to restore watersheds. The state regulates non-federal forest practices through the Forest Practices Act.

The Timber/Fish/Wildlife Agreement (TFW) was adopted in 1987. It led to improvements in forest practices. To address the Endangered Species Act and protect salmon and other fisheries, parties involved with forest practices issued the Forests and Fish Report (April 1999). In response to this report and legislative action during the 1999 session, the Forest Practices Board adopted

emergency forest practice rules that became effective on March 20, 2000. The National Marine Fisheries Services has issued a rule under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) indicating that forest practices consistent with the Forest and Fish Report are adequate to protect salmon species listed under ESA. In addition, a number of local governments are developing and implementing local programs to address the effects of forestland conversions and manage small forestry operations.

In western Washington alone, 332,000 acres of non-industrial private forests were converted to non-forest uses between 1979 and 1989. Urban expansion was responsible for 48 percent of these conversions, rights-of-way accounted for about 28 percent, and agricultural uses made up the remaining 24 percent. It could cost as much as \$2.4 billion statewide to build a stormwater system equivalent to the runoff benefits provided by forests converted to other uses in the last decade. (Source: Department of Natural Resources, 1998 *Our Changing Nature: Natural Resource Trends in Washington State*)

## **Highlights of 2001-2003 Actions**

- The Department of Natural Resources, with the Department of Ecology, will review and approve jurisdictional transfer of Class IV general forest practices to eligible cities and counties.

## **2001-2003 Budget for State Actions**

No specific funding is reported on or tracked by agencies for this program.

		See page 9 for key.					
STATE AGENCY ACTIONS	OUTCOMES	Pri-ori-ty	Non-point	Sal-mon	Budget Code	PS Plan Element	Action ID

#### DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Review, in consultation with the Department of Ecology, and approve jurisdictional transfer of Class IV General forest practices to cities and counties that have ordinances or regulations meeting or exceeding state forest practices rules. Provide technical assistance to those cities and counties to which Natural Resources has transferred jurisdiction until January 1, 2002.	All counties and cities will have ordinances or regulations for Class IV General forest practices by December 31, 2001.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DNR-0	FP-2	195
---	---	--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	-------	------	-----